

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 SIG-03 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 ACDA-12 HA-05
OMB-01 TRSE-00 /095 R

DRAFTED BY IO/UNP:TNILES:EK
APPROVED BY IO:GBHELMAN
AF:WEDMONDSON
AF/S:LMACFARLANE
UNA:AHOLLOWAY

-----123743 242010Z /14

O 241934Z MAR 78 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN NIACT IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 076759

DAR ES SALAAM FOR AMBASSADOR YOUNG

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDEV, RH, SF, WA

SUBJECT: NAMIBIA-RHODESIA: PIK BOTHA DEMARCHE
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REF: CAPE TOWN 590

1. WE ARE SOMEWHAT SURPRISED AT PIK BOTHA'S EXTREME
REACTION TO ACTIONS OF COUNCIL FOR NAMIBIA WHICH, BASED
ON EMBASSY LUSAKA'S REPORTING, STRIKE US AS WHAT COULD
BE ANTICIPATED BASED ON PR"VIOUS COUNCIL ACTIONS.

ONLY DISTURBING NEW ELEMENT (TEXT LUSAKA 964) IS ADDITION OF WHAT APPEARS TO BE CALL FOR "UNITING FOR PEACE" ACTION IN ARTICLE 38 OF DRAFT. IN FURTHER DISCUSSIONS OF COUNCIL FOR NAMIBIA ACTION WITH BOTHA, YOU SHOULD MAKE FOLLOWING POINTS:

A) THE US AND THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE CONTACT GROUP HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH THE DECLARATION ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL FOR NAMIBIA.

B) OUR VIEWS ON NAMIBIA ARE EXPRESSED IN THE CONTACT GROUP'S PROPOSAL FOR NAMIBIAN SETTLEMENT IN CONTEXT OF UN SECURITY COUNCIL ACTION AND NOT REPEAT NOT IN ANY DOCUMENT ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL FOR NAMIBIA.

C) WE HAVE NO INFORMATION TO INDICATE THAT AHTISSARI PLAYED ANY MAJOR ROLE IN DRAFTING OF THIS DECLARATION, WHICH IN ANY EVENT COULD HARDLY BE REGARDED AS THE WORK OF ONE MAN. BESIDES, THE DECLARATION LARGELY REPEATS PREVIOUS STATEMENTS BY THE COUNCIL FOR NAMIBIA AND ON THAT BASIS WE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT ITS CONTENTS SHOULD HAVE COME AS A SURPRISE TO THE SAG. (FOR LUSAKA: CAN EMBASSY PROVIDE ANY INFORMATION ON AHTISSARI'S INPUT IN DEVELOPMENT OF DECLARATION?)

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2. WE HAVE NO CONFIRMATION OF WHAT AMBASSADOR YOUNG MAY HAVE SAID IN LUSAKA REGARDING POSSIBLE US ARMS SUPPLY TO FRONT LINE AFRICAN STATES. ACCORDING TO AN AP DISPATCH, AMBASSADOR YOUNG WAS ASKED A HYPOTHETICAL QUESTION WHETHER WE WOULD FURNISH ARMS TO THOSE COUNTRIES, TO WHICH AMBASSADOR YOUNG SIMPLY REPLIED THAT WE WOULD "CONSIDER" SUCH A REQUEST. YOU MAY TELL BOTHA THAT WE DO NOT HAVE A DEFINITIVE TEXT OF AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S REPLY BUT WE SEE NOTHING EXTRAORDINARY IN THE STATEMENT ATTRIBUTED TO HIM THAT THE US WOULD "CONSIDER" ANY REQUEST WE RECEIVED. YOU SHOULD ALSO ADVISE BOTHA THAT AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S PURPOSE IN GOING TO LUSAKA WAS TO LOBBY FOR AFRICAN ACCEPTANCE OF THE CONTACT GROUP PROPOSAL AND NOT TO PARTICIPATE DIRECTLY IN THE COUNCIL FOR NAMIBIA MEETING.

3. WE SHARE YOUR UNCERTAINTY REGARDING BOTHA'S PURPOSE IN MAKING HIS DEMARCHE. CLEARLY, ANY ASSESSMENT DEPENDS UPON ROLE WHICH BOTHA IS PLAYING WITHIN SAG ON NAMIBIAN ISSUE. HIS OVERREACTION TO THE COUNCIL FOR NAMIBIA MEETING MAY SUGGEST THAT HE IS LOOKING FOR ADDITIONAL AMMUNITION TO USE IN JUSTIFYING SAG DECISION

TO MOVE AHEAD WITH INTERNAL SETTLEMENT, WHICH IS HARDLY
AN ENCOURAGING SIGN FROM OUR POINT OF VIEW.

4. FOR AMBASSADOR YOUNG. YOU MAY WISH TO PROVIDE
FURTHER GUIDANCE TO EMBASSY CAPE TOWN REGARDING YOUR
REPORTED COMMENTS ON ARMS SUPPLY ISSUE. SHOULD YOU HAVE
TRANSCRIPT OF YOUR REMARKS IN LUSAKA, IT WOULD BE HELP-
FUL IF WE COULD HAVE A COPY.

5. SUBJECT DID NOT ARISE AT SECRETARY'S MARCH 24 PRESS
CONFERENCE AND NOON PRESS BRIEFING WAS NOT HELD TODAY
IN VIEW OF SECRETARY'S PRESS CONFERENCE.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AGREEMENT DRAFT, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, BRIEFING MATERIALS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE076759
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: TNILES:EK
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780130-1129
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780327/aaaaawfr.tel
Line Count: 136
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 9fbcadbd-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 CAPE TOWN 590
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3207885
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NAMIBIA-RHODESIA: PIK BOTHA DEMARCHE CONFIDENTIAL CONFIDENTIAL
TAGS: PDEV, PORG, RH, SF, WA, UN, COUNCIL FOR NAMIBIA, (YOUNG, ANDREW), (BOTHA, PIK)
To: CAPE TOWN
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/9fbcadbd-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014